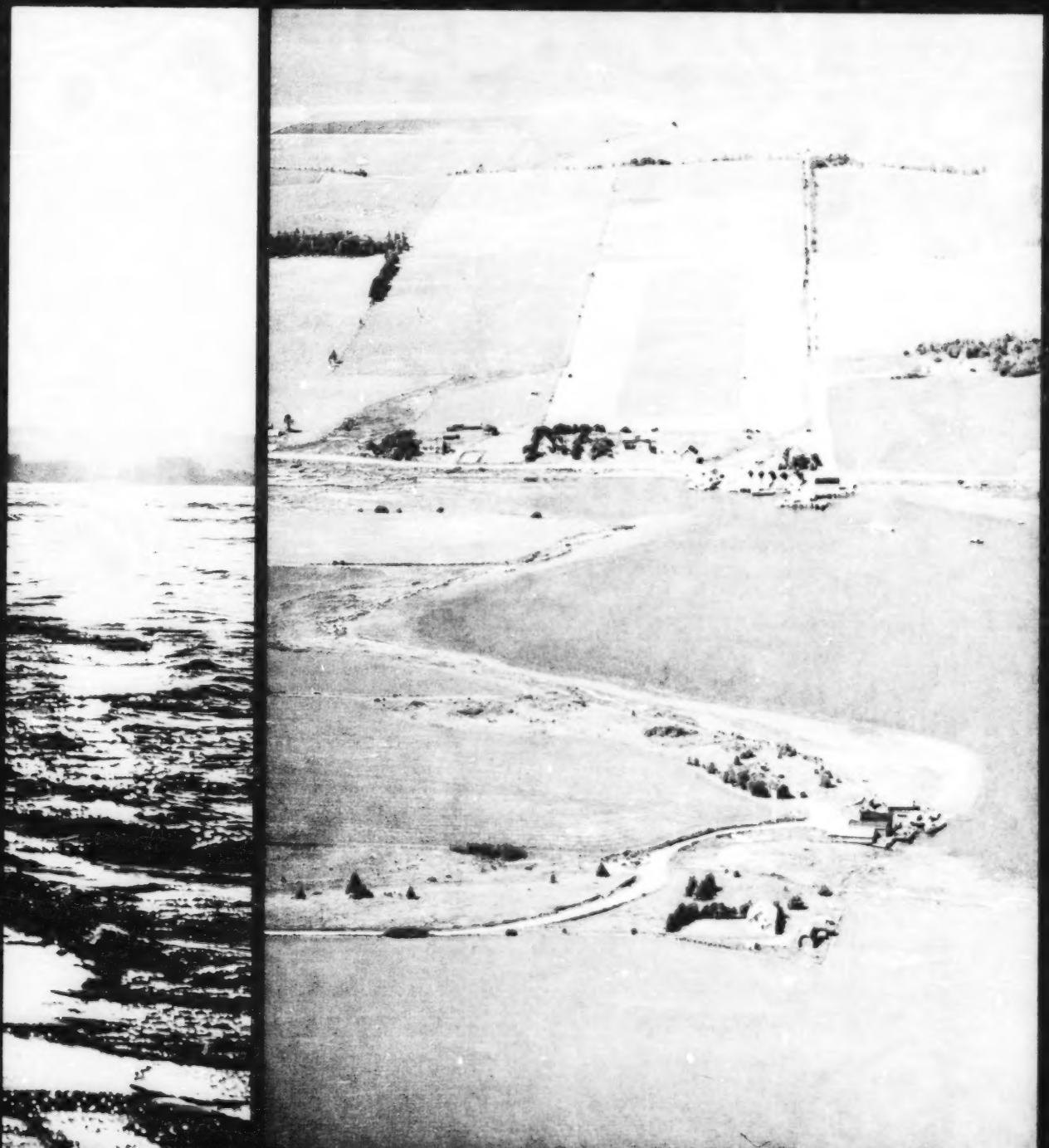
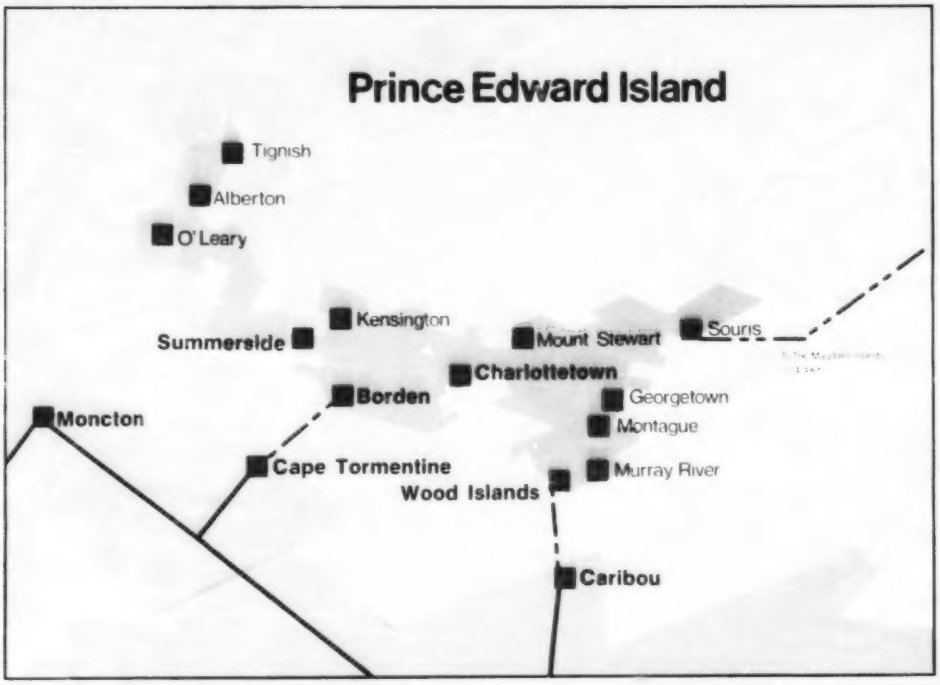
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Atlantic Canada

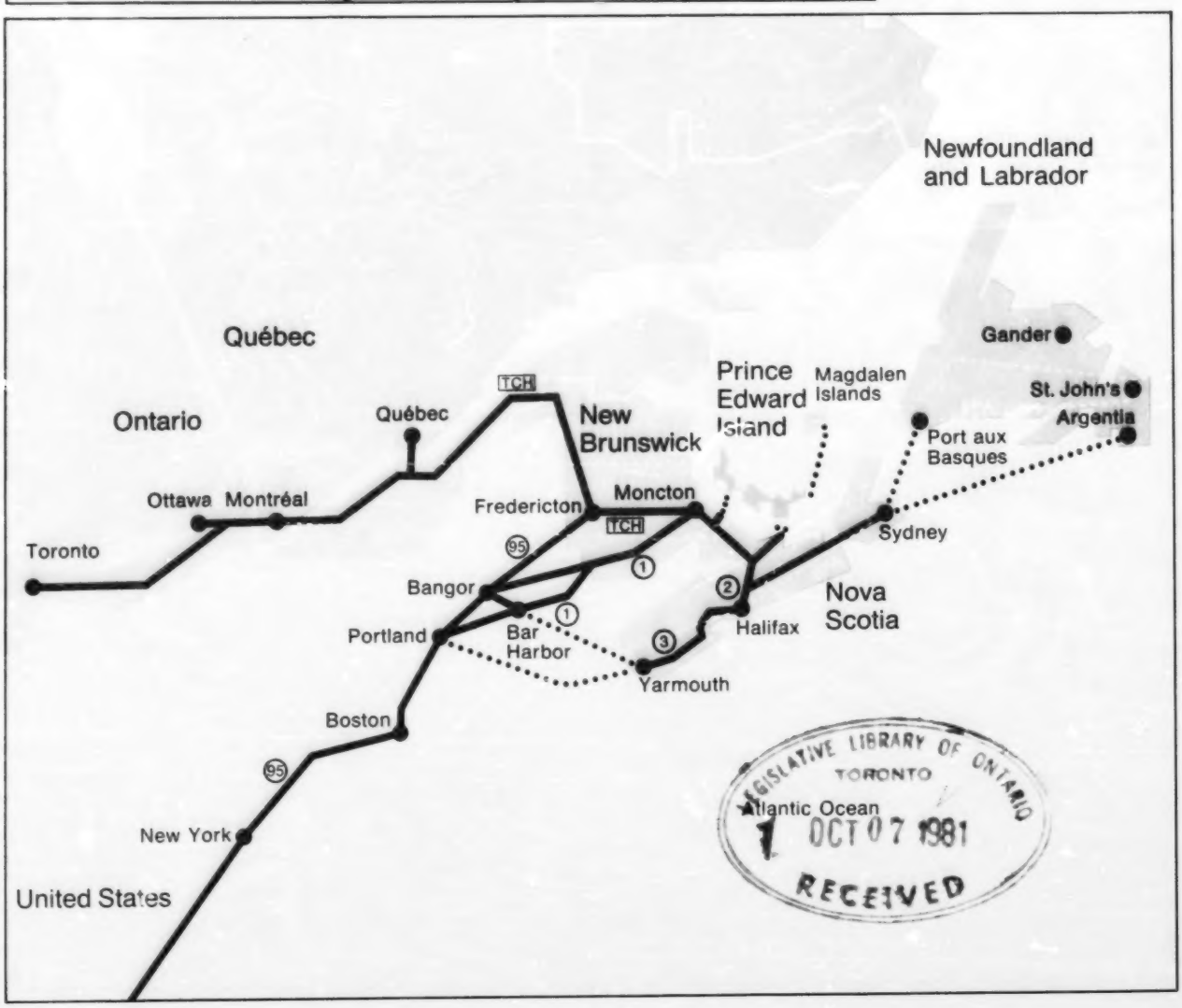
Feel our warmth...





Approximate Kilometres to Charlottetown

	km	(miles)
Halifax via N.S.	227	(141)
Halifax via N.B.	328	(204)
Quebec	959	(596)
Montreal	1199	(745)
Ottawa	1389	(863)
Toronto	1738	(1075)
Magdalen Islands	211	(131)
Bangor via N.B.	598	(372)
Bar Harbor via N.B.	704	(437)
Bar Harbor via N.S.	696	(418)
Portland via N.B.	832	(517)
Portland via N.S.	856	(532)
Boston via N.B.	999	(621)
New York via N.B.	1353	(841)



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ORIENTATION

Prince Edward Island's rich red soil is the province's best known physical feature. You'll see rolling red fields, bright clay roads and sandstone shorelines wherever you go.

Two ferry services operate at the narrowest points of the Northumberland Strait to connect the Island to the mainland. (See the section on Transportation for exact routes and crossing lengths. Exact times of ferry crossings are announced throughout the day on local radio stations.)

Orwell

The Island is only 6 km (4 miles) wide near Summerside, where both the north and south shores are visible from a single vantage point, and 64 km (40 miles) wide at its broadest point. It is 224 km (140 miles) long. The Island consists of approximately 567000 hectares (1,400,000 acres) of land, most of it forested. Over 140000 hectares (345,800 acres) are under cultivation.

The province's climate is warmest during July and August with average daily high temperatures of 22.6°C (73°F). Many travellers prefer the serenity and cooler temperatures of an Island autumn. Winters are perfectly suited to cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

The Island's topography is unique in Canada; its red soil contains little rock, and fine white and red beaches with deep-cut coves add variety and appeal to the gently rolling hills typical of most inland scenery. The Island's highest point is 150 m (492 feet) above sea level.

By air, Prince Edward Island is only one-and-a-half hours from Montreal, half an hour from Halifax (and connections to U.S. cities) and three hours from Toronto via Ottawa. Flights are direct to Toronto, and of course, Ottawa, Halifax and Montreal.

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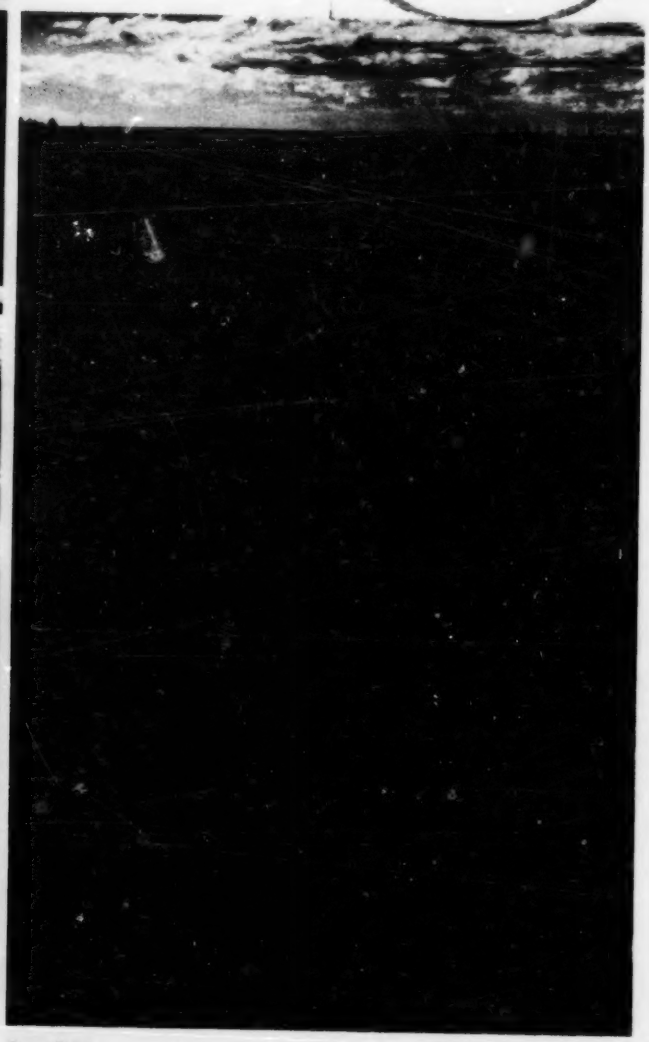
Cavendish



Green Road

Canada's smallest province is indeed one of its most beautiful. With a total area of only 5656 square kilometres (2,184 square miles) and a population of 124,000, Prince Edward Island offers a wide variety of attractions, distinctive scenery and exciting activities within its compact size. The Island is situated in the lap of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, at the heart of the Atlantic region.

The Island is home to farmer, fisherman, labourer and businessman — a pleasing blend of lifestyles. The Province's capital is the city of Charlottetown, recognized as the birthplace of Canada. In 1864 it hosted the first discussions leading to the political and economic union of British North America in 1867. Sir John A. MacDonald, Canada's first Prime Minister, was among the leaders attending that historic meeting.

Prince Edward Island's reputation as the Garden of the Gulf is well-founded. Because of the great numbers of visitors who come to the province each year, tourism has become a flourishing part of the Island way of life. Touching the lives of many Islanders in a personal way, tourism has contributed in concrete financial terms to the province's economy.

All four Atlantic provinces have grown increasingly popular with travellers, but the Island holds the key to a unique vacation: varying terrain, warm gulf waters, endless beaches, attractions and other activities, and live summer theatre that ranks among the best in Canada.

There are special times in the year of particular interest to visitors and Islanders alike — perhaps times to rekindle old friendships from past holidays. The Summerside Lobster Carnival in July is an annual favorite. In midsummer Charlottetown celebrates Country Days and Old Home Week, while the traditional Eldon Highland Games get into full swing. The Dundas Plowing Match and Agricultural Fair attracts Canada's finest ploughmen. The Tyne Valley Oyster Festival celebrates the famous Malpeque Oyster, known as the finest in the world.

While you're enjoying this delicacy, you'll learn everything you don't already know about oyster shucking at this west Prince County festival.

All along your route, wherever it may lead, are dozens of well-groomed camping and picnic areas equipped with facilities for the convenience of outdoor enthusiasts, roadside barbecuers and those just seeking the comfort of a noontime rest under a cool shade tree.

History plays an important part in many Island attractions. Museums can be found in many areas of the province, each representing some fascinating aspect of our Island past. For the children, playgrounds are never far away. The Island's many beautiful golf courses, campgrounds, and beaches provide a perfect holiday blend of fun and relaxation. Everywhere the Island's natural beauty is carefully preserved. The Island's three scenic drives provide an excellent opportunity to explore this beauty. One of these drives is named after the graceful Lady Slipper, our provincial flower.

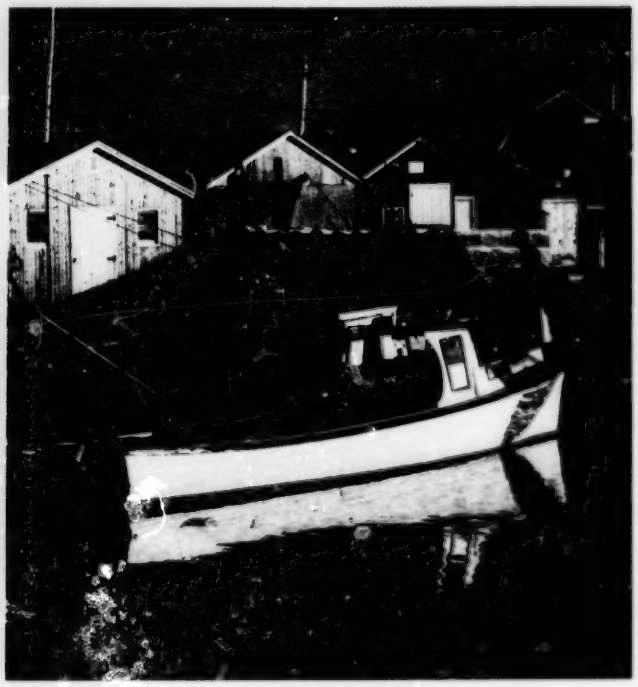
You may see this delicate pink orchid blooming in mossy wooded areas. Please don't disturb its growth, because once the flower is picked, it won't bloom again.

While vacation time is an opportunity to get away from it all, you may still wish to keep up on current affairs. The news media is well represented on Prince Edward Island. Three daily and three weekly (one French and two English) newspapers published in the province report local, national and international news. The three AM radio stations, two in Charlottetown and one in Summerside, are good sources of news and a variety of music. There is also a CBC FM station broadcasting from Charlottetown.

Charlottetown's CBC television station, the Atlantic Television System (ATV, originating in Moncton, New Brunswick) and two cable television systems round out the Island's communications system.

Green Park

Cavendish



Miminegash

Although Prince Edward Island is separated from Canada's mainland by the Northumberland Strait, the Island is within comfortable driving distance of the New England states, southern Ontario centres and Quebec, via the Trans Canada Highway. It brings you right to our ferry docks.

Travellers on the Trans Canada Highway should take Exit #550 at Aulac or Exit #504B at Shediac. These exits will take you to the ferry terminal at Cape Tormentine, New Brunswick. A short spur of the Trans Canada Highway near New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, leads to the other ferry terminal at Caribou, Nova Scotia.

From Cape Tormentine, New Brunswick, to Borden on Prince Edward Island, CN Marine operates year-round ferry services daily. The trip is 14 km (9 miles) long and takes about 45 minutes. At the eastern end of the Island, ferries cover the 22 km (13 mile) route approximately nine months of the year. This Caribou, Nova Scotia, to Wood Islands, Prince Edward Island, crossing takes about 90 minutes. Once on the Island, there are about 5440 km (3,373 miles) of roadway waiting for you, of which 3500 km (2,175 miles) are paved.

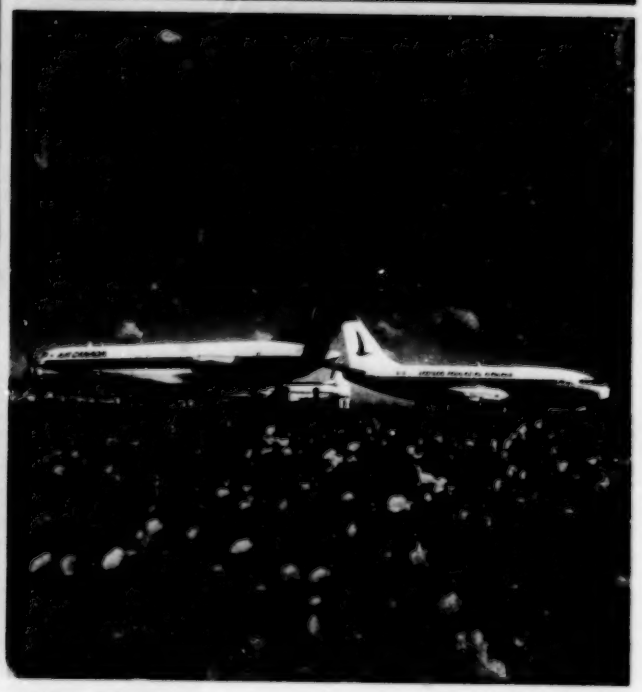
Eastern Provincial Airways and Air Canada serve the Island with daily direct flights to major Eastern and Central Canadian centres. CN bus services to the mainland connect with CN passenger train services at Amherst, near the Nova Scotia/New Brunswick border, and Moncton, New Brunswick.

Wood Islands-Caribou Ferry

Strathgartney

Borden-Cape Tormentine Ferry

DeSable



Charlottetown Airport

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

Tourist Information Centres, or TIC's, have been placed strategically across Prince Edward Island for the convenience of our visitors. There are over a dozen of them, all equipped with two-way radios for arranging accommodation in any part of the Island at a day's or an hour's notice. Most hotels, motels and campgrounds are connected to this system. Vacation brochures and easy-to-read maps are on hand to help visitors choose appropriate routes, attractions and stop-overs.

Your Tourist Information Centre is a good place to get advice about the Island, and it provides an opportunity for a rest out of the sun. The TIC may be a new wooden building, a distinctive A-frame, or a converted schoolhouse. Whatever the structure, it will be marked "Tourist Information Centre" and the welcome will be unmistakable.

HIGHWAY INFORMATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

We are working to enhance Prince Edward Island's neat landscape through the use of discreet, uniform directional signs along our roads. The standardized signs show kilometres along with a directional arrow and name of the service advertised.

Other signs to watch along the way are those which identify our three scenic routes: the Lady Slipper Drive, Blue Heron Drive and Kings Byway. The flower, bird and crown symbols signifying these routes are distinctive. Blue community name signs identify most Island communities throughout the province.

VISITOR CENTRES AND MUSEUMS

Kings Byway Visitor Centre at Poole's Corner near Montague takes us on a three-dimensional trip through Island history and culture, particularly pertaining to the eastern part of the province.

Built in 1976 the Centre graphically presents the facts and features that make Kings County distinctive — its people, products and topography. Large and small photographs, ceiling-high displays and informative text help to unfold the story of this fascinating region.

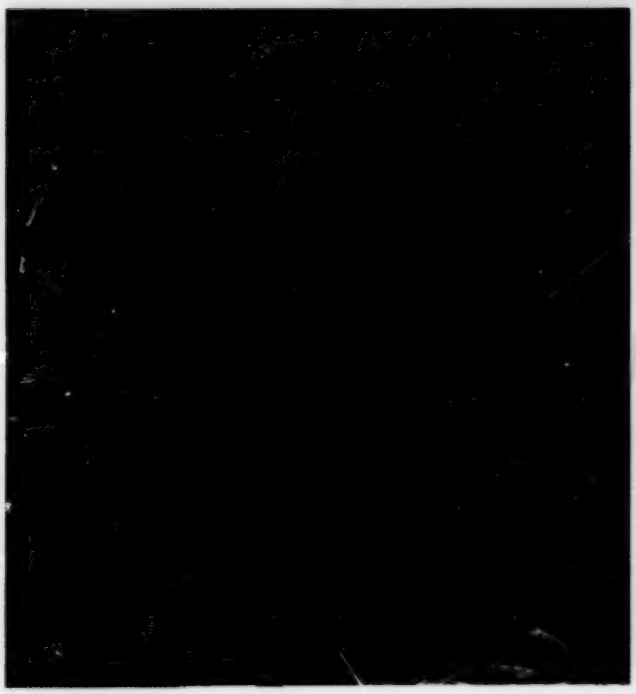
A similar approach has been followed at the Rocky Point National Historic Site of Fort Amherst, formerly Port La Joie under French rule. A site steeped in history comes alive as its importance in the settlement of the Island is explored. At Green Park the history of the prosperous shipbuilding era on the Island is recounted in the same fashion.

At Basin Head a restored old wharf and lobster-canning factory against the backdrop of spectacular sand dunes complement the indoor fisheries exhibits.

We hope these unique displays afford visitors a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Island way of life — past and present.

Dial-the-Island Reservation System

Cabot Park



Tourist Information Centre

Green Park

Green Park Shipbuilding Display

Basin Head Fisheries Display

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AT A GLANCE

Indian Name
Abegweit (cradled on the waves)

Time Zone
Atlantic

Longitude
61°-64°

Latitude
45°-47°

Highest Point
150 m (492 feet) above sea level at Springton

Length
224 km (140 miles)

Width
from 6 to 64 km (4 to 40 miles)

Area
567000 hectares (1,400,000 acres)

Climate
Temperate

Temperature
4.4°C to 30°C (40° to 86°F) - summer. -21°C to 6°C (-7° to 44°F) - winter

Average Snowfall
274 cm (108 inches)

Counties
Prince, Queens, Kings

Population
124,000

Ethnic Influences
British 79%, French 17%, Micmac 4%

City
Greater Charlottetown area, 38,000

Towns
Summerside, Parkdale, Montague, Souris, Kensington, Alberton, Georgetown, Borden

Villages
30

Mileages
Converted to kilometres in 1977 (1 mile = 1.6 km)

Kilometres of Road
3500 paved; 1740 unpaved

Mainland Connections
Ferry to New Brunswick, 14 km (9 miles); Ferry to Nova Scotia, 22 km (13 miles)

Airlines
Air Canada, Eastern Provincial Airways

Provincial Bird
Blue Jay

Provincial Flower
Lady Slipper

Major Political Parties
Progressive Conservative Party, Liberal Party, New Democratic Party

Members of Parliament
4

Senators
4

Major Industries
Agriculture, tourism, fishing

Secondary Industries
Irish moss, manufacturing, tobacco

Liquor Control Commissions
12 outlets, including 3 in Charlottetown

Provincial Sales Tax

Daily Island Newspapers
Guardian, Evening Patriot, Journal-Pioneer

Weekly Island Newspapers
Eastern Graphic, La Voix Acadienne, West Prince Graphic

Radio Stations
CHTN (AM), CFCY (AM), and CJRW (AM); CBC (FM)

Handcrafts
Pottery, weaving, jewellery, leatherwork, woodworking, quilting, batik, hooking, stained glass.

Golf Courses
10, all close to the shore (Seven 18-hole, three 9-hole)

Beaches
Plentiful, red and white sand

Campgrounds
Over 70

Scenic Drives
Lady Slipper (Prince County); Blue Heron (Queens County); Kings Byway (Kings County)

Visitor Centres
Poole's Corner (describes Kings County); Basin Head (fisheries museum); Green Park (shipbuilding museum); Rocky Point (Fort Amherst Historic Site)

Provincial Parks
36 (16 overnight and day use; 20 day use only)

National Parks
Prince Edward Island National Park (along the north shore)

Game Animals
Only small fur-bearing animals

Common Birds of Prey
Hawks, owls, falcons

Common Water Fowl
Black ducks, Canada Geese, teal

Common Fresh-Water Fish
Brook trout, rainbow trout, Atlantic salmon

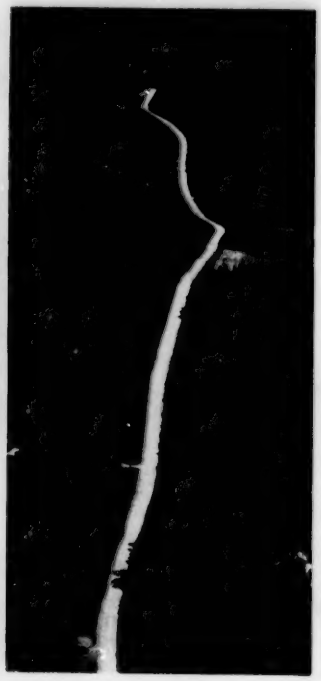
Common Salt-Water Fish
Cod, mackerel, redfish, hake, flounder

Big Game Fish
Bluefin tuna

Brudenell

Emyvale

Murray Harbour

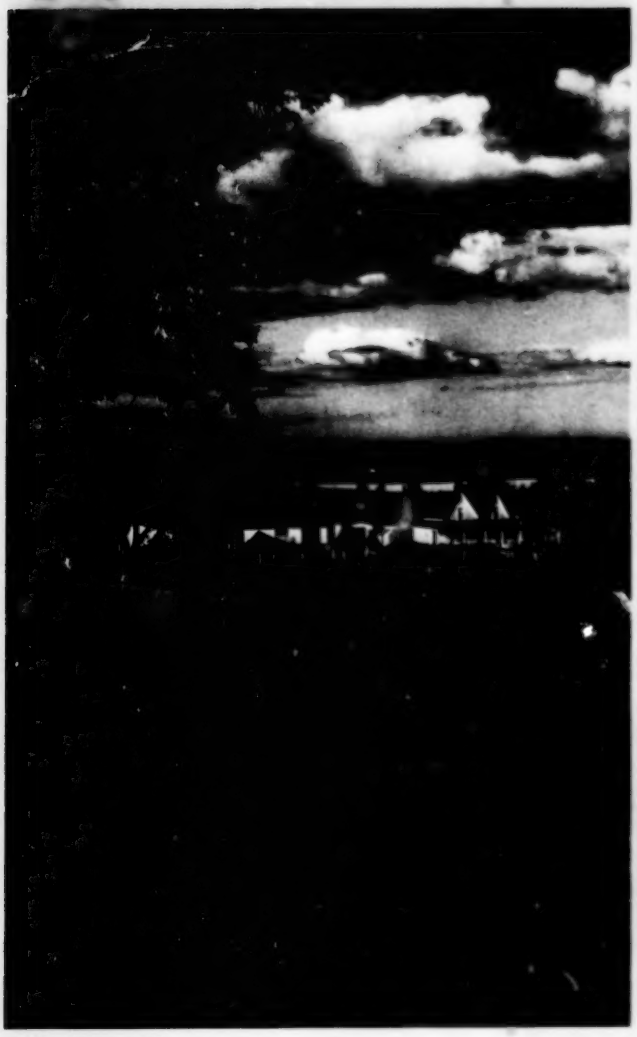


Island Countryside

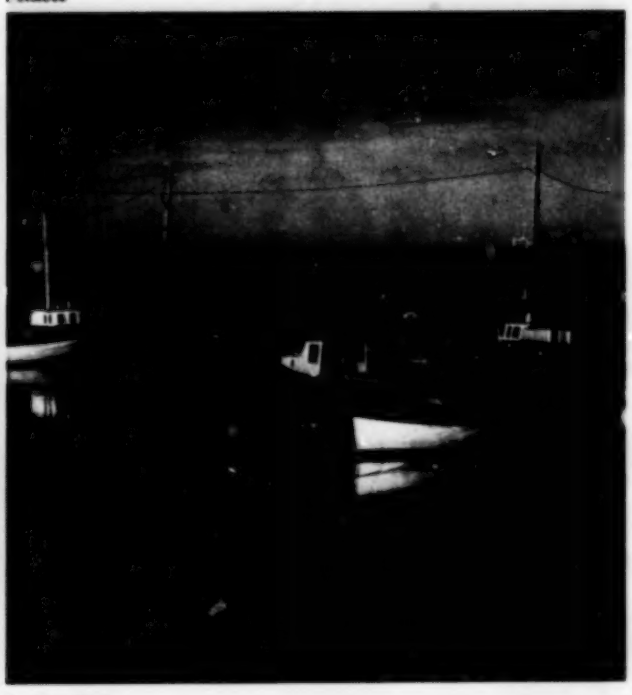
Island Home

Country Church

Near Bedeque



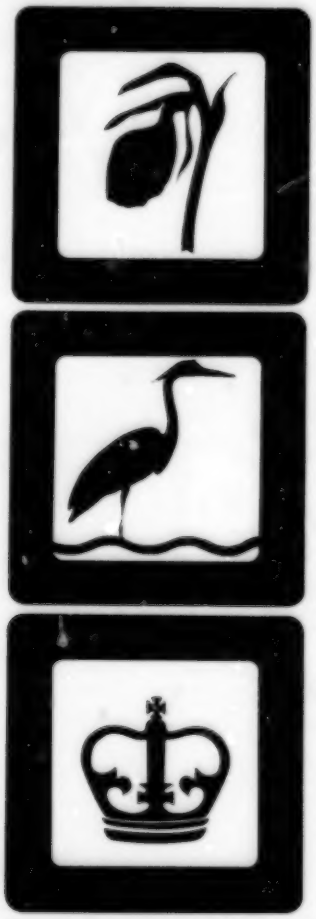
Potatoes



St. Catherines

Sea Cow Pond

SCENIC DRIVES
INTRODUCTION



One of the great charms of Prince Edward Island is the sense of harmony that prevails everywhere. Red furrowed fields, tree-lined lanes and attractive farm homes blend easily. So do the majestic churches of stone, brick and wood you will see across the Island. The Island's many architectural styles are wonderfully distinct yet none seem out of place, with each other or with their surroundings. Instead they help to give the Island a colourful character all its own.

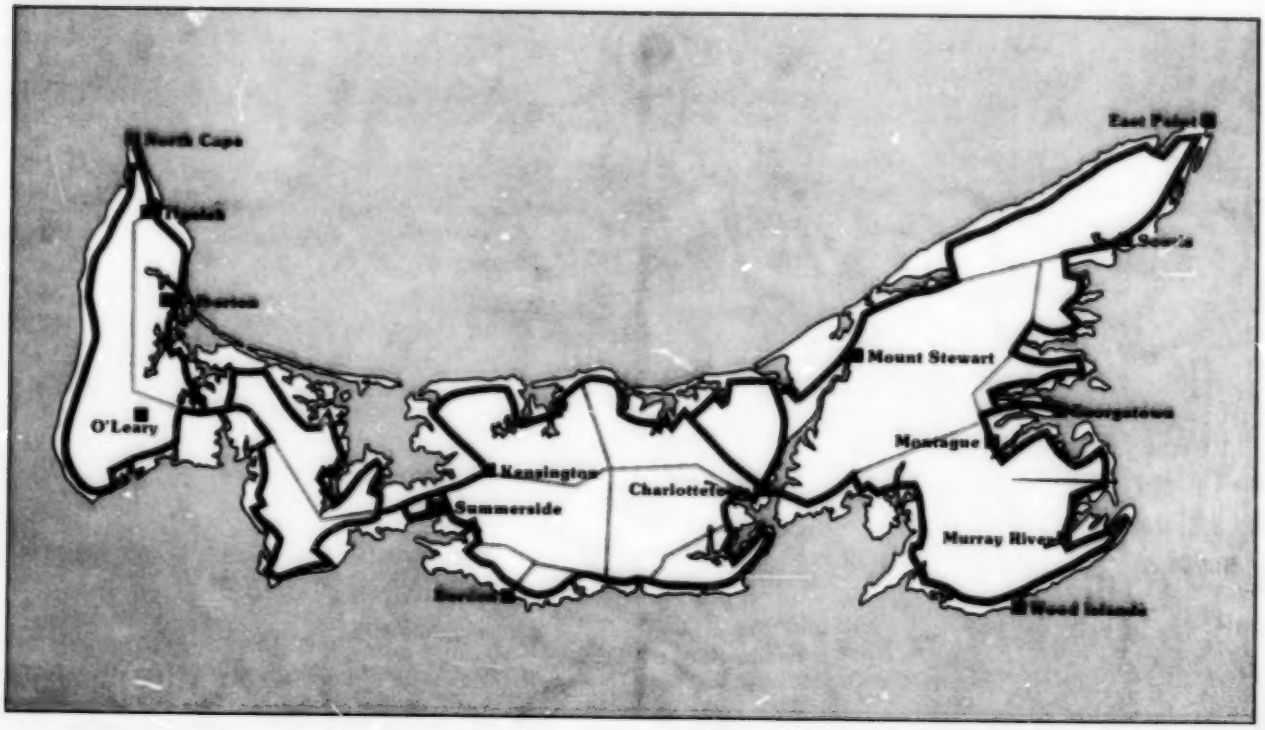
Prince Edward Island's rich red clay is excellent for farming, but not for brickbuilding. It is far too sandy. Consequently, you'll see very few Island homes built of brick. Some are built with Island stone which is a soft sandstone that weathers surprisingly well. The majority of homes in the country and in town are finished on the outside with overlapping wooden shingles. They weather gracefully although most are painted regularly after the rigors of winter, leaving an impression of uniform neatness.

Three scenic routes have been designed to introduce visitors to the Island — its buildings, its places and its people. Winding through the three counties these routes take in sights most representative of the Island's heritage in easy, day-long trips.

All three drives feature beach accesses, private and provincial parks and campgrounds, scenic lookouts, heritage sites and stands selling fresh seafood and vegetables. Since you'll undoubtedly want to explore the countryside all along the routes, make side trips the rule rather than the exception. You need not worry about getting lost; distances between points on the Island are short and virtually every community is clearly identified with blue and white place name signs. A few short sections of the drives are red packed clay instead of pavement, adding interest and variety to your trip.

There is a scenic drive through each of the Island's three counties. The Lady Slipper Drive explores Prince County, the western-most county. The Blue Heron Drive skirts the coastline of the Island's central Queens County, and to the east the Kings Byway winds its way around Kings County. Scenery and activities vary greatly, even within each scenic drive.

The Island has been called the "Garden of the Gulf." It hasn't Nova Scotia's wave-lashed coves and mountainous terrain, the vastness of New Brunswick's forests, or Newfoundland's barren and beautiful outports. The Island's beauty is a more peaceful and gentler kind, yet surprisingly varied. Rolling farm lands give way to tall stands of deciduous trees, white sand beaches become rocky coves, and sturdy fishing villages melt into acres of evergreens. This province's land and seascape have many moods. One day at a time the scenic drives will let you explore them all.



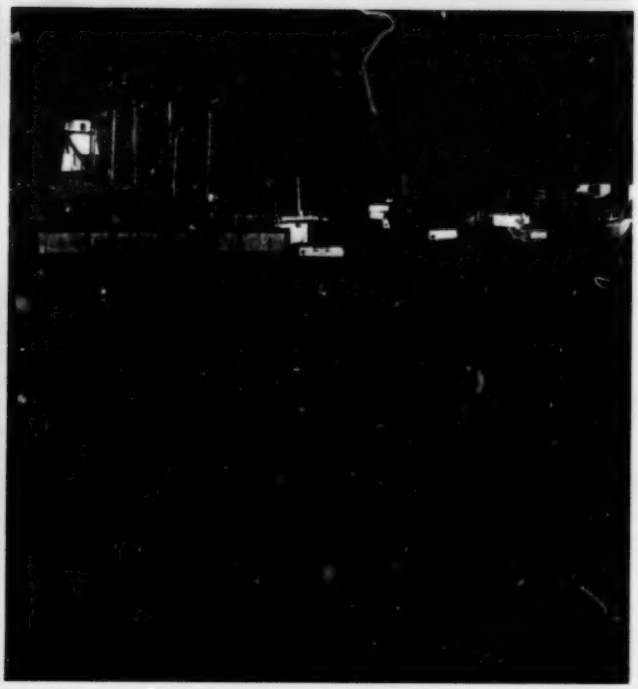
The Lady Slipper

Irish Moss

Mont Carmel

Miminegash

Acadian Pioneer Village



Tignish Run

LADY SLIPPER DRIVE

The Lady Slipper Drive through Prince County introduces us to the rich culture of the Island Acadians and to the proud Micmac Indians who first settled the Island. The Lady Slipper Drive invites us to enjoy the world-famous Malpeque oyster and to learn about one of the Island's most interesting products of the sea — Irish moss. Flowing like a figure eight through Prince County, the 300 km drive (188 miles) offers the solitude of rugged countryside, visits to busy fishing villages and frequent crossings of tidal rivers.

You'll enjoy talking with the fishermen of Alberton and Tignish and to the farmers who drive into O'Leary for supplies. You'll have a firsthand look at the warm waters of Malpeque Bay, the focus of Prince Edward Island's oyster industry, and you'll see fishermen harvesting Irish moss from the sea at Skinner's Pond. In season, you'll see lobster boats pulling into the western shore, one of the Island's richest lobster fishing districts.

In Prince County many descendants of the early Acadian settlers have retained their language and much of their culture. Acadians account for about 17 percent of the province's population.

Southwest of Summerside the Lady Slipper signs lead to Mont Carmel. Nearby, a reproduction of an early eighteenth century Acadian settlement is situated. The settlement features a church, store, rectory, common houses, barn and school built of logs in the style typifying temporary dwellings of the settlers. A charming restaurant on the site serves a wide variety of authentic Acadian dishes.

At Miscouche, the Acadian Museum contains extensive additional information, including ancestral pictures of more than 20 Acadian families, manuscripts and miscellany dating back to 1755.

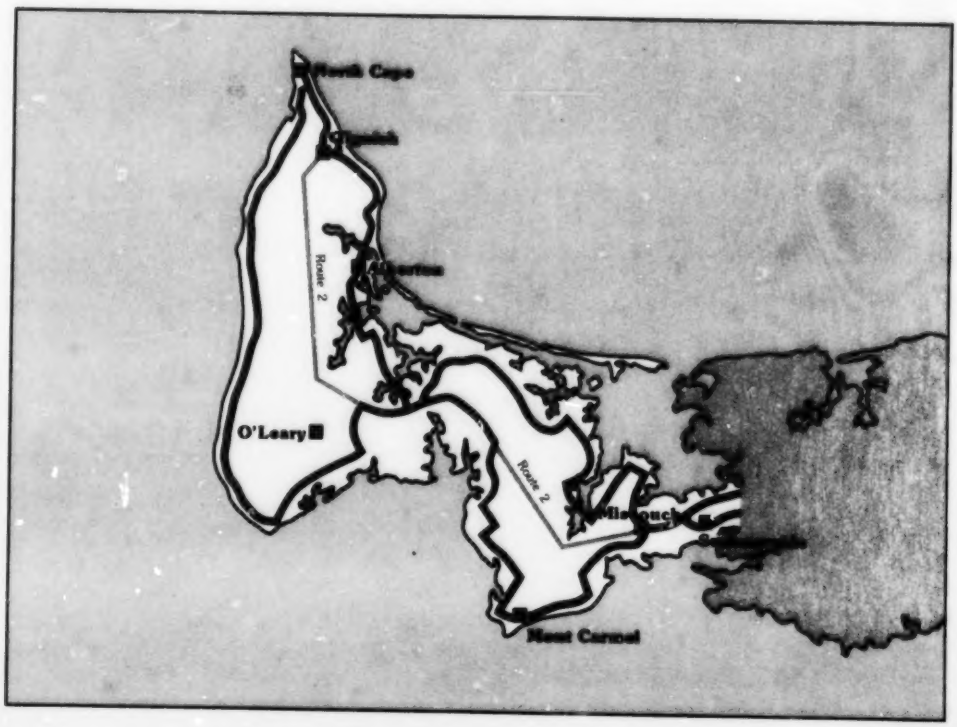
Passing through a narrow part of the Island at Portage, the Drive continues around the western extremity of Cape Wolfe and northward to North Cape, through the village of Tignish, and then dips back south toward Summerside, following the coast on the eastern edge of Prince County.

This route includes a visit to the town of Alberton. It was near here that Jacques Cartier landed in 1534 on the island that came to be known as Ile. St. Jean. Alberton became the centre of the Island's once-lucrative silver fox industry, and observant travellers will be able to spot a number of 'fox houses' in the town. These were the homes of successful fox ranchers — large, stylish, though simple, two-storey homes with white clapboards and graceful pillars.

Just off the Drive and still heading south is Lennox Island, home to approximately 50 families of the province's remaining Micmac Indians. Lennox Island is linked to the Drive by a modern causeway. Here the native people, who originally settled the Island over 4,000 years ago, have established an outlet for authentic Indian crafts.

Green Park, located on the west side of Malpeque Bay, commemorates the Island's once-active shipbuilding industry. On the site is the magnificent, fully restored home of the wealthy shipbuilder James Yeo, Jr., dating back to 1865. Green Park also features a reconstructed shipyard, half-scale ship, Interpretive Centre and campground.

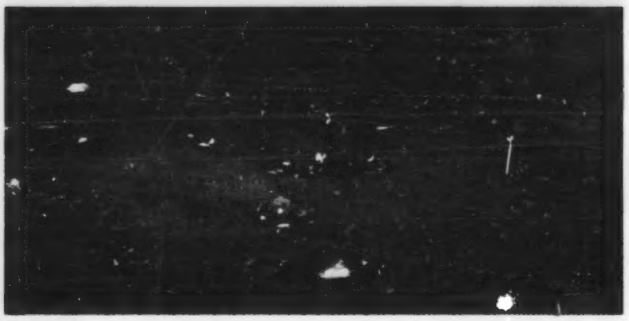
Cultural heritage, Indian handcrafts, remote beaches, museums, golf courses and many special attractions — the Lady Slipper Drive will lead you to them all.



Blue Herons

French River

West River



Cavendish

Hampton

Charlottetown

BLUE HERON DRIVE

The Blue Heron Drive, shortest of the scenic routes, 190 km (120 mi.), offers an excellent variety of activities from Charlottetown to the isolated splendor of Grand Tracadie Beach.

The Drive starts at Charlottetown's historic Province House, where the provincial legislature sits. From there it takes you north following Route 15 to the National Park where sandy beaches, rounded white sand dunes and red sandstone capes stretch for miles. At Rustico Bay you may see an artist sketching quick impressions of the changing seascape as gulls wheel overhead.

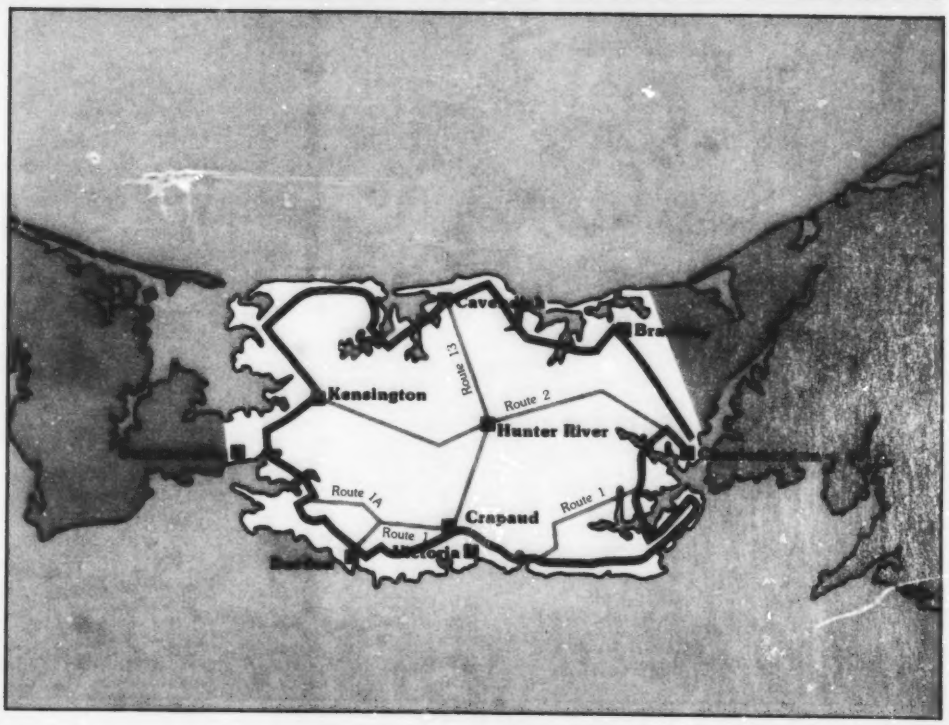
Farther on you can stop in Cavendish at Green Gables, the house that inspired the celebrated "Anne of Green Gables" novels or tour the New London home of their creator, Lucy Maud Montgomery.

The family can swim or just relax on the extremely popular north shore beaches; tempting, indeed, is the 18-hole golf course located in Cavendish. The beautiful rolling landscape en route to Kensington, the midway point on the Blue Heron Drive, is breathtaking. Take time to enjoy a delicious lobster dinner at a church or community centre. As your Drive takes you southward, a side trip into the town of Summerside will appeal to shoppers with an eye for a good buy.

From the outskirts of Summerside, the Drive closely follows the south shore overlooking Northumberland Strait. The family may decide to sample the south shore beaches. The red shoreline of the south shore is a sharp contrast to the white sandy beaches of the north shore. Determine firsthand if the water is warmer here than along the north shore. (Many Islanders contend that it is.)

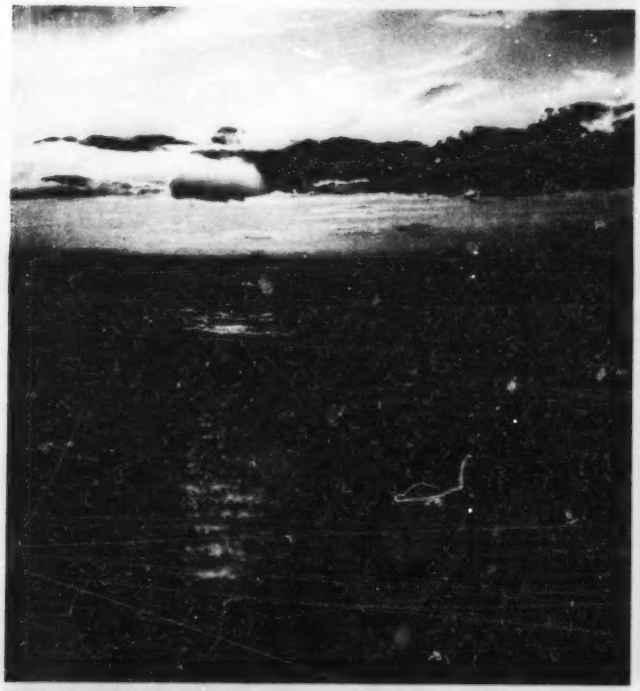
Fort Amherst National Historic Site at Rocky Point provides an informative look at P.E.I.'s history dating back to French rule. Your Drive now takes you back to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island's only city, happily exhausted but anxious to recount the many experiences and events of a day of adventure on the Blue Heron Drive.

Cape Tryon

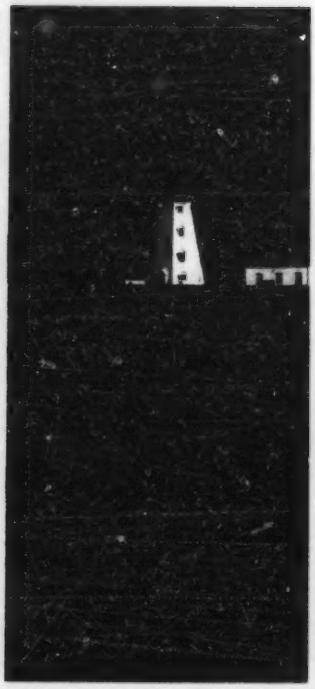


Tobacco, Kings County

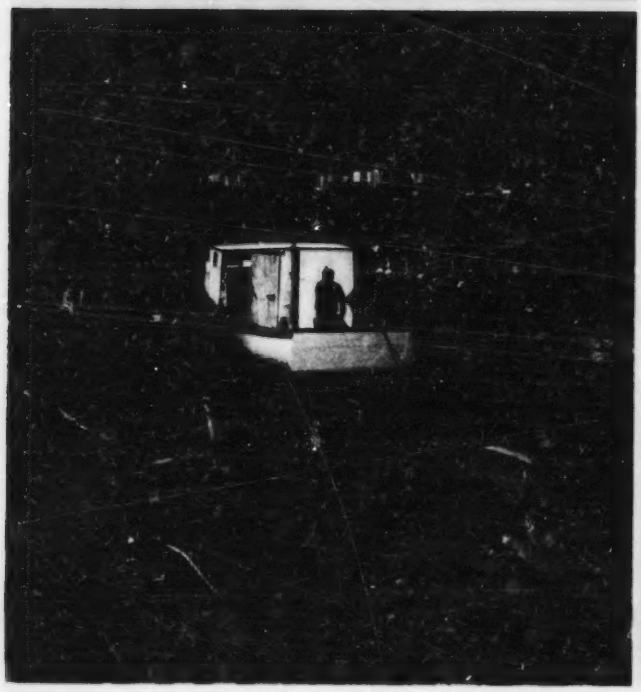
Cable Head



Panmure Island



Off North Lake



Georgetown

Murray River

The Kings Byway which circles the eastern third of the Island is about 375 km (234 miles) long. It offers a delightful mixture of pastureland and peninsula, lighthouses and lagoons. Like Prince County the area is less densely populated than Queens County.

The Kings Byway reminds us that on the Island we're never far from the blue waters of Northumberland Strait on the south or the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the north. Everywhere you see magnificent shoreline. On a clear day you can catch a glimpse of the mountainous Nova Scotia coastline from the high cape at East Point, the Island's extreme eastern tip.

Kings County is tobacco country. The slightly hotter, drier interior is excellent for growing the lucrative weed which is earning an international reputation for quality, despite the relatively short time it's been cultivated here on a large scale. Kings County also produces fine potato crops and cultivated strawberries.

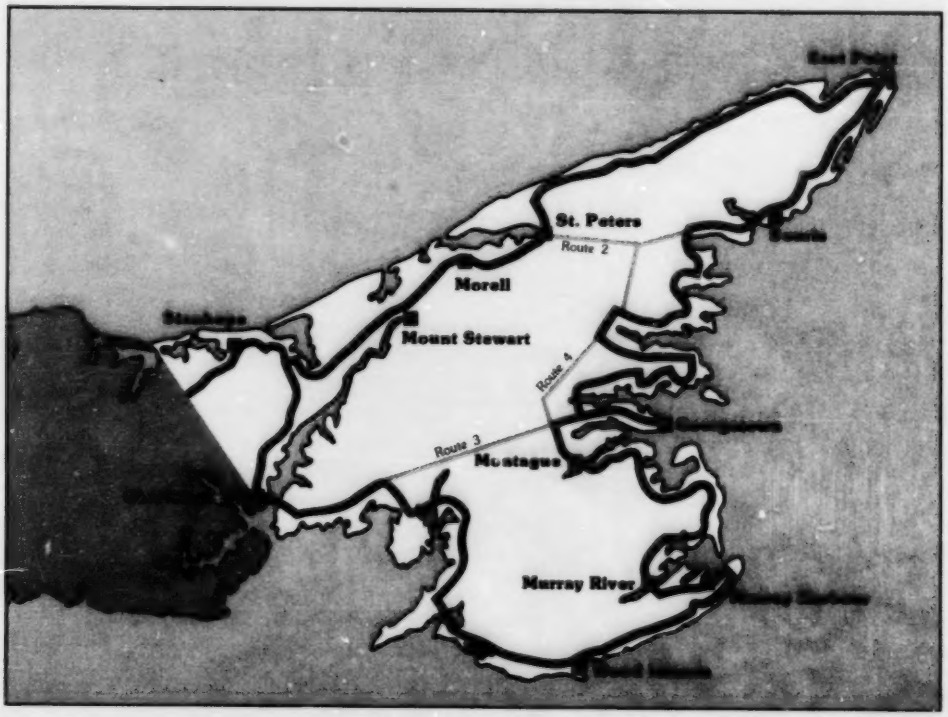
Don't miss Brudenell River Resort located on the north shore of the Brudenell River where fresh water mixes with the salty tide from Cardigan Bay. The 567 hectare (1,400 acre) resort is built around a stately old farmhouse, now the main lodge. A modern dining room and separate accommodation units preserve the setting's natural grace.

Situated on the north shore is North Lake which earned its reputation as "Tuna Capital of the World" even before 1978 when a fisherman landed his 555 kg (1,235 pound) prize. Visitors can try their luck at the giant bluefin tuna with the help of captain and crew aboard a chartered deep-sea fishing boat. Hundreds have discovered the thrill of fierce battle with these worthy challengers, and aching muscles are a small price to pay for the joy of hooking a giant.

Kings County has other unique fish and wildlife attractions: The Fisheries Museum at Basin Head, complete with restored fish shacks, wharf and lobster canning factory is worth a trip. Bird watchers shouldn't miss Moore's Migratory Bird Sanctuary at Milltown Cross where fresh-water fishing is allowed within catch limits. Also at Milltown Cross is Buffaloland Provincial Park, a sanctuary for a herd of these huge, amiable animals which are not indigenous to the province.

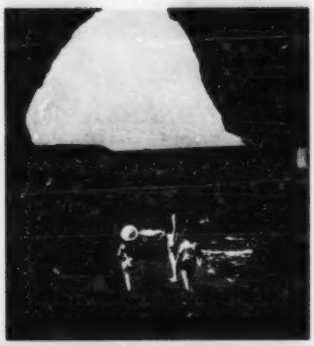
Slip off the main track and stop briefly at picturesque villages perched beside glimmering St. Peter's Bay, or go to Naufrage and Cable Head to watch the Irish moss fishermen harvesting this strange bounty from the sea. The moss is used in the manufacture of cosmetics and as a food preservative, among other things. The Island is the largest Irish moss supplier in the world.

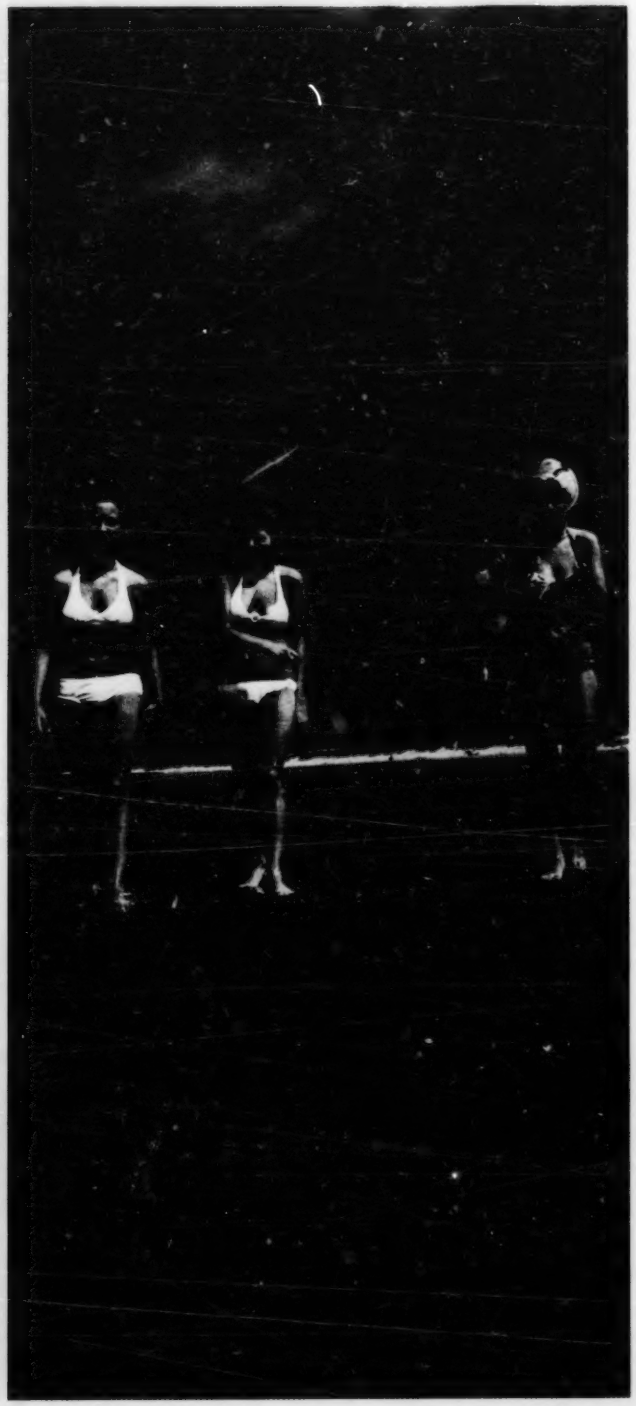
During your travels you will probably stop at Wood Islands, the eastern ferry terminal. Nearby is one of the last lighthouses on the Island in which the keeper of the light and his family live. If time permits leave your car at the ferry and walk over to the lighthouse for a friendly tour to the top. Don't miss historic Orwell Corner, a tiny restored village on the southern curve of the Byway. Here a world goes on in gentle slow motion with a guided tour and a bite of Island cheese included in the price of admission.



BEACHES

The first thing you should know is that the water is warm, because the waters of the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence are comparatively shallow and are easily warmed by the summer sun. After all, it's the water that should be blue, not your skin.



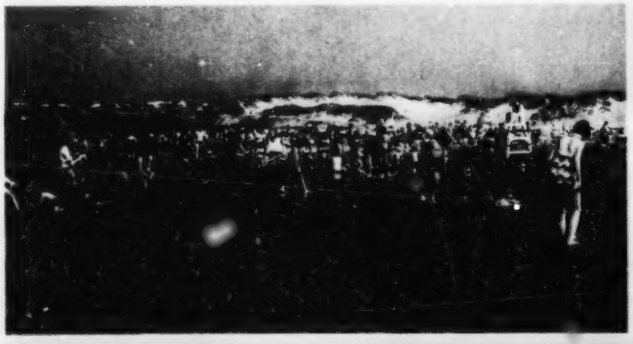


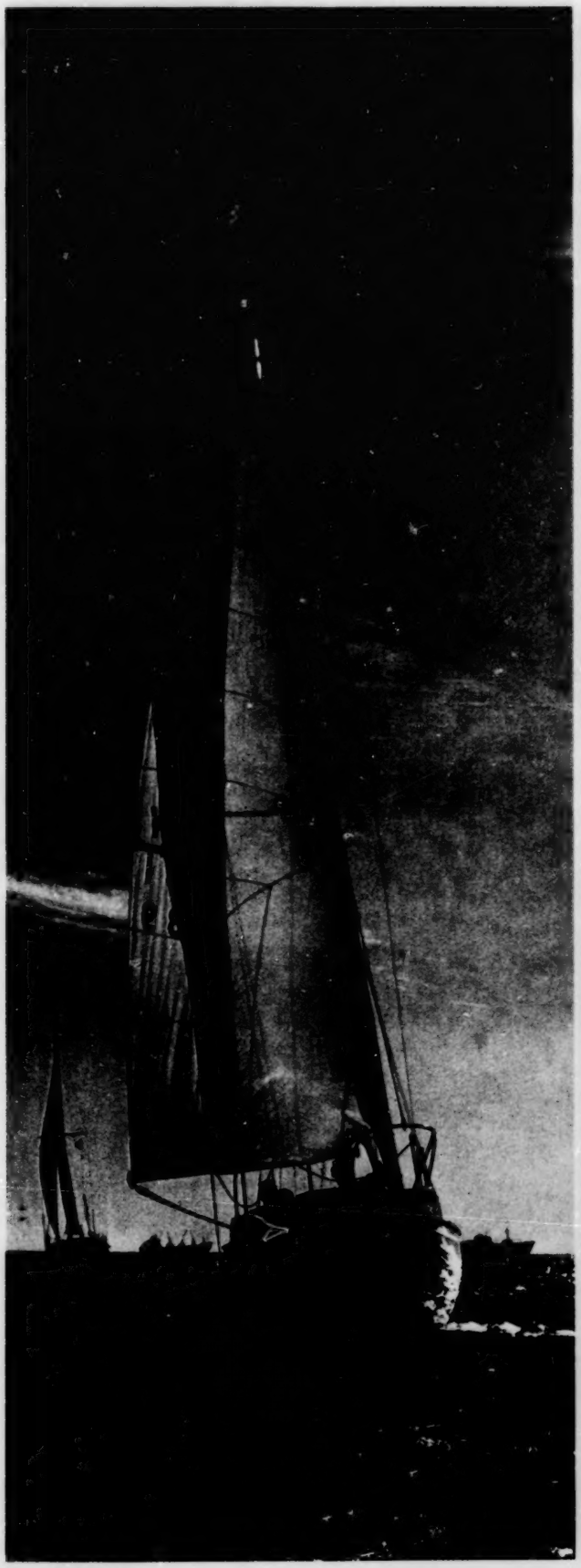
Now let's talk about sand. On our beaches, the sand colours range from reddish-brown, through beige, to sugar white. The sand is granular, not powdery. It is often arranged in dunes that please the eye and create little private sunbathing havens.

Many of our beaches stretch to the horizon so there's no need for crowding. National Park beaches and most provincial park beaches have lifeguarded areas, so you can sunbathe while the children swim to their hearts' content.

The three scenic drives frequently pass by secluded coves and tempting clay roads that lead to hidden beaches. If there is any beachcombing blood in you, this is where it should show up.

Sand castle contests, shoreline strolls, sunshine days that stretch to the barbecue hour — these are some of the beach possibilities in Prince Edward Island.





Summerside Harbour

Montague

Red Point

Below Scales Pond

Campbells Pond

Murray River

Montague

Islanders care about the land, sea and air they share, and through active environmental programs, we are trying to protect these invaluable resources. Fortunately in this largely rural province, there is no large-scale heavy industrial pollution. Nevertheless, erosion, pesticide runoff, untreated sewage and indiscriminate dumping of garbage are threats to the delicate environmental balance.

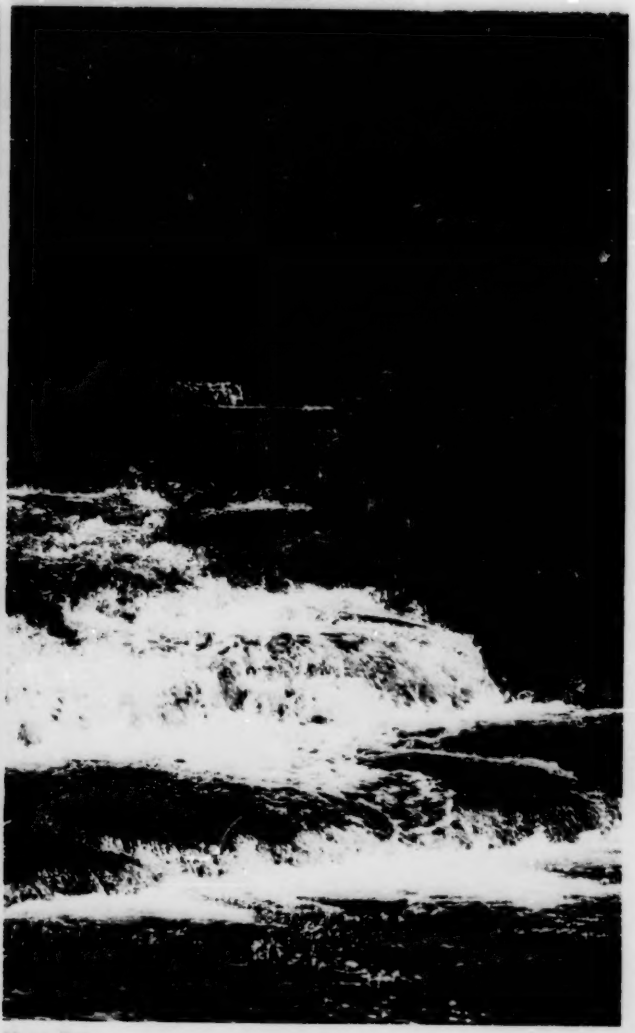
These are not major problems, thankfully, and the Island's wildlife population is healthy and abundant. There are no big-game animals here, but small upland game such as snowshoe hare, grouse, pheasant and partridge are plentiful. Also abundant are waterfowl such as the black duck and teal.

The main fur-bearing animals are beaver, mink, muskrat, fox, weasel, squirrel and raccoon, and they are all controlled by provincial trapping regulations. Avid inland fishermen will enjoy the speckled trout and Atlantic salmon inhabiting our streams. These, too, are protected by catch limits and seasons, although licenses are easily obtained.

We invite you to enjoy the Island's unspoiled beauty and to help us preserve it for the enjoyment of future generations.

Cable Head

Brudenell Island



Murray River

Bayview

Cavendish

Campbells Pond

Charlottetown Harbour

Does the Island have what you like in the way of recreation? Let's make a list.

Super sailing. Bring your own boat or visit the village of Victoria for a schooner ride.

Leisurely canoeing. Sorry, no rapids. Our rivers and streams are as tranquil as the countryside.

Trail riding. You'll be high in the saddle while your senses discover P.E.I. countryside firsthand. Whether you are a greenhorn or an accomplished rider, you'll find the ideal mount for your trail riding adventures.

Harness racing. A hot tip and a fast track guarantee an exciting evening at the races. Even if you don't understand racetrack jargon, you'll cheer your favourite horse to the wire.

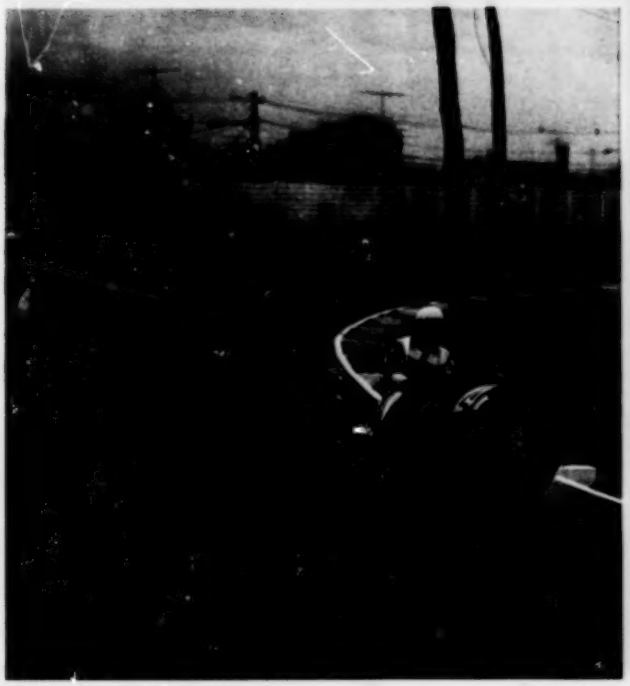
Seashore hours. A little beachcombing, or a clam digging trip. Waterskiing, scuba diving, and body surfing through the warm salt water offer great variety.

Routine stuff. Tennis, for sure. Swimming, of course. And we'll tell you about golf and sportfishing on the next two pages.

Also winter recreation on the Island is enjoying increasing popularity. The gentle hills welcome cross-country skiers, trackers, and facilities abound for curling and skating.

Brookvale

Borshaw River



Summerside

Pinette

If your idea of a vacation is playing golf every day, Prince Edward Island should be at the top of your list. 'The Island', Canada's smallest province, has seven great big 18-hole championship courses, plus another three 9-hole layouts.

What they all have in common is closeness to the sea and a friendly welcome for folks 'from away'. You can buy weekly memberships for less than you think or pay green fees and play a different course each day.

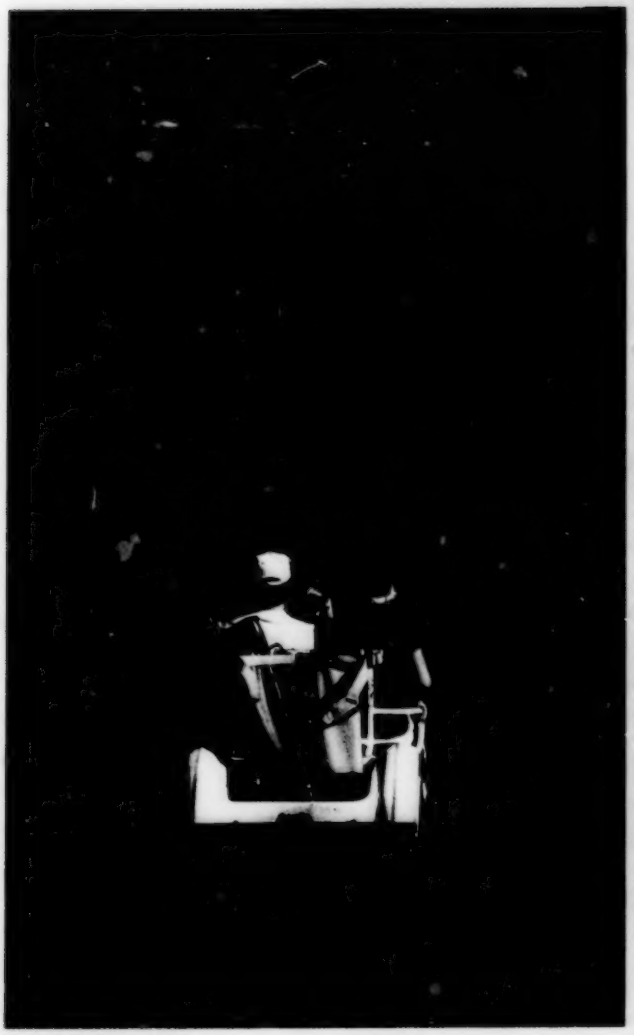
Newcomers to the game will find our courses a good place to start. Rental equipment is available and lessons, too.

Accomplished golfers will appreciate the excellent design of the challenging championship courses, where the sea sometimes forms part of the water hazards.

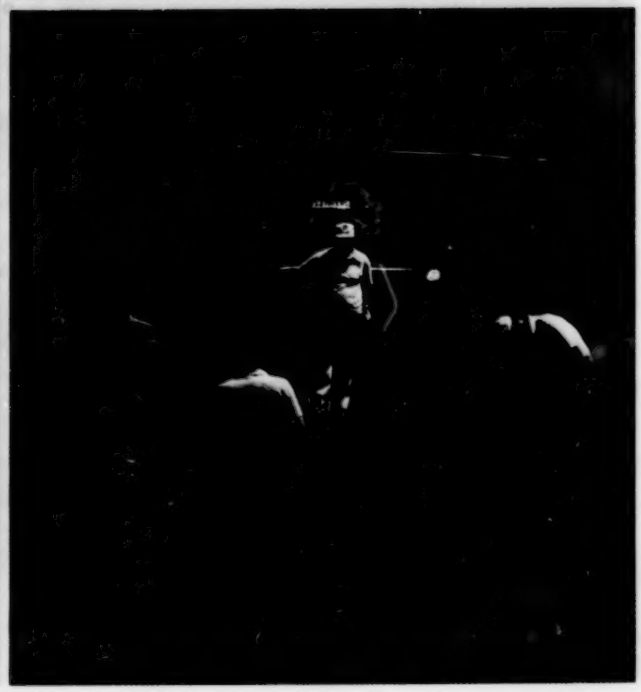
And the non-golfers in the family should take heart. Because nothing is very far away in Prince Edward Island, family members can scatter to pursue individual interests and be back together again for a leisurely lunch or an afternoon swim at the beach.

Brudenell

Green Gables



Green Gables, Cavendish



Mill River

Imagine hooking and landing a thousand-pound bluefin tuna!

Better yet, imagine telling your friends about it! In 1978 the world's largest bluefin tuna caught by rod and reel was landed off Prince Edward Island by a local sportfisherman. It weighed 555 kg (1,235 lbs.) and set the world record.

Big-game fishermen come to the Island from around the world to participate in the popular tuna fishing tournaments. Newcomers to the sport can rely on advice from the same charter operators who take the experts out to land the big ones.

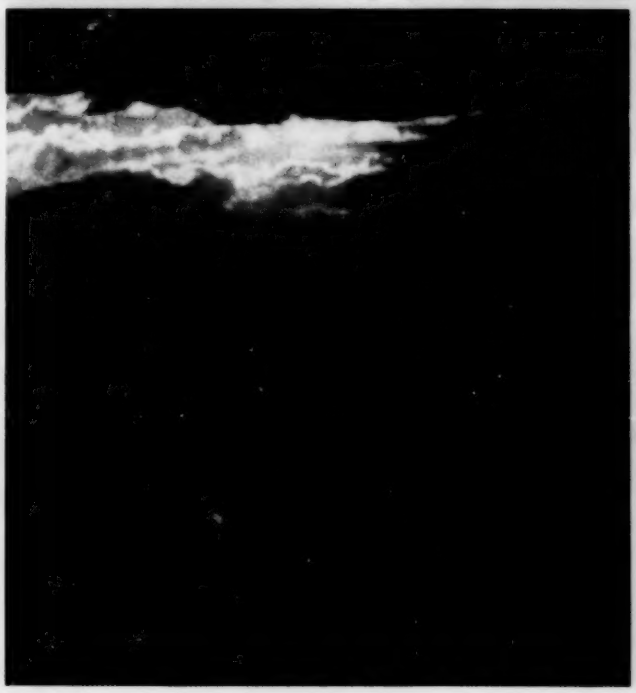
Deep-sea fishing is also a favourite with visitors. Once on board the charter vessel you can just sit back and let the boat's captain and crew supply tackle, bait and tactics. What's left is the fun and it's all yours to enjoy, as is the catch. Mackerel and cod are especially tasty cooked over an open campfire.

Those with a preference for inland fishing can drop their lines into the hundreds of trout-filled brooks and streams winding through the Island. Licenses for inland fishing are available at most community general stores. Along with your license, the storekeeper may just give you a helpful tip on the best fishing spot.

North Lake

North Rustico

Mayfield



North Lake

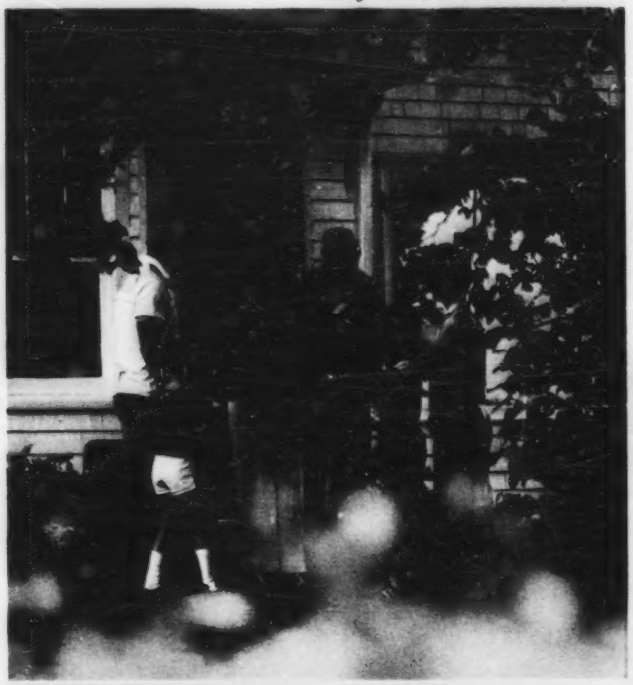
Murray River

Chances are you won't want to sleep late while vacationing on a farm in Prince Edward Island.

Each day is filled with countless new experiences, from horseback riding and walks down the pasture lanes to clam-digging and relaxing on your host's front veranda.

When you open your eyes that first morning you'll be greeted by the sights and sounds of the farm. Acres of rolling fields, lawns sparkling with dew and animals stirring in the barnyard are a new experience to many visitors. That appetizing aroma is breakfast cooking in the country kitchen.

You'll be welcomed into the barns too, and your farm hosts will encourage you to try your hand at some of the daily chores like milking the cows and collecting fresh eggs from the henhouse. No doubt you'll feel like working off some of that hearty breakfast. Some family farm operations specialize in dairy cattle, others in beef, swine or sheep. Many are mixed farming operations for cattle, market garden vegetables, grain, hay, corn and potatoes.



You won't have to go far to find a clean and sparkling brook. Dangle your feet in the refreshing water, or drop in a fishing line and breathe in that country-fresh air.

Horseback riding, fresh or salt-water swimming, cycling, deep-sea and trout fishing as well as golfing, hiking or tennis are nearby too. On this holiday island, nothing is really distant!

As a farmhouse guest you have certain advantages over the average visitor. For one thing your hosts are experts in what to do and see because they've probably lived here all their lives and can provide tips on the best fishing holes, wild strawberry patches or quiet sandy beaches.

You will find yourself at the heart of an agricultural province where the rural way of life is the rule and not the exception. Farming is an Island tradition; in fact, the farm you're visiting may have been in the same family for well over a century.

Prince Edward Island country vacations — we're sure you'll find them a very pleasurable learning experience. The cost of a farm holiday is generally less than conventional accommodation, especially for large families. We suggest you come in "from away" and enjoy one of the best vacation bargains anywhere.

ACCOMMODATIONS

You won't find many chain motels in Prince Edward Island. The emphasis is more on individuality and uniqueness, family-owned businesses that put a premium on personal contact with their guests.

Repeat business is the goal, especially for those renting cottages and managing resorts. That means pleasing their guests in every way they can, from arranging theatre reservations to squeezing in an extra bed.

We have several large resorts with all the trimmings if that's what you want. At the other end of the scale are inexpensive tourist homes, farm vacation homes, and country inns. There are motels, of course, and cottages are ever popular and usually require early booking.

All tourist accommodations are government inspected and regulated by local tourist associations. You can choose with confidence from the hundreds of listings in the Accommodations Guide.

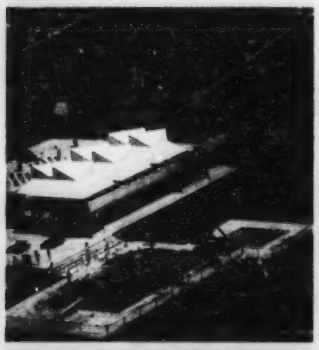
CAMPING

If you've been camping for any length of time, chances are you've already heard that Prince Edward Island has some of the best camping on the continent. The network of about 70 campgrounds includes the national park, well-equipped provincial parks and a large group of quality private operations.

No asphalt jungles here. You camp in green fields or among the trees and close to good swimming. If you don't have a trailer, you can rent one and have it towed to the campground of your choice as a substitute cottage.

Cavendish

Brudenell



Red Point

Dalvay

Brackley

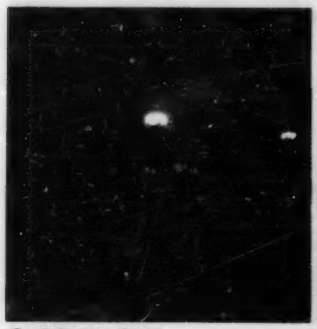
ENTERTAINMENT

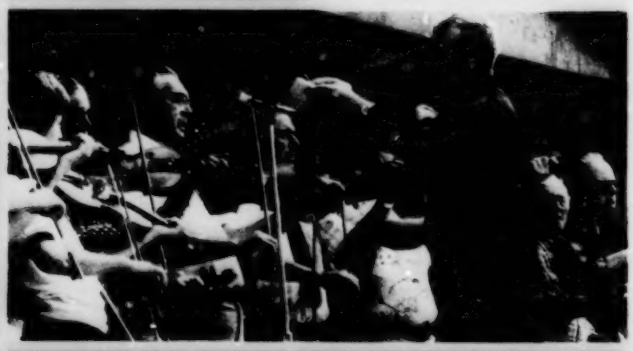
In the heart of Charlottetown, the vibrant Confederation Centre of the Arts fills the central square. This is a modern national monument built in 1964. The Centre houses the famous Charlottetown Festival series of live Canadian musicals. Of these, the most famous and perhaps best loved is "Anne of Green Gables," which has played to packed houses since 1965.

Fast becoming a proving ground for some of the country's most talented performers and playwrights, the Festival features two musicals each season in addition to "Anne." These consistently play to capacity audiences in the 1,100-seat theatre. Included within the Centre is a fine museum and art gallery housing extensive collections of Canadian art. Major Canadian exhibitions are featured regularly. Small professional theatre groups have spun off from the Summer Festival into community settings, such as the MacKenzie Building in Charlottetown.

50 km (28 miles) east of Charlottetown the community of Georgetown, the home of Kings Theatre, offers repertory theatre.

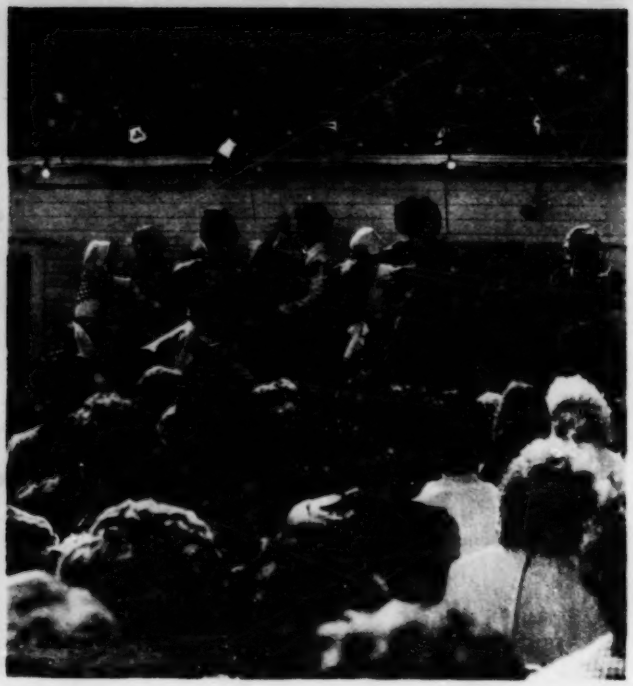
City, town and resort lounges attract top-level recording artists of all kinds, most of them as eager as you to have a good time. Fiddle and step-dancing contests are popular across the province, and the Island folk tradition is kept alive and well at regular Saturday night dances.





Confederation Centre

"Anne of Green Gables"

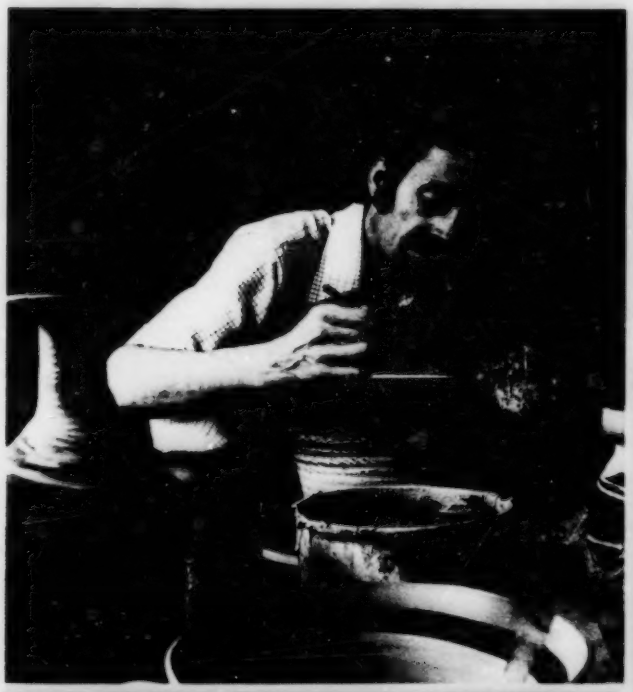


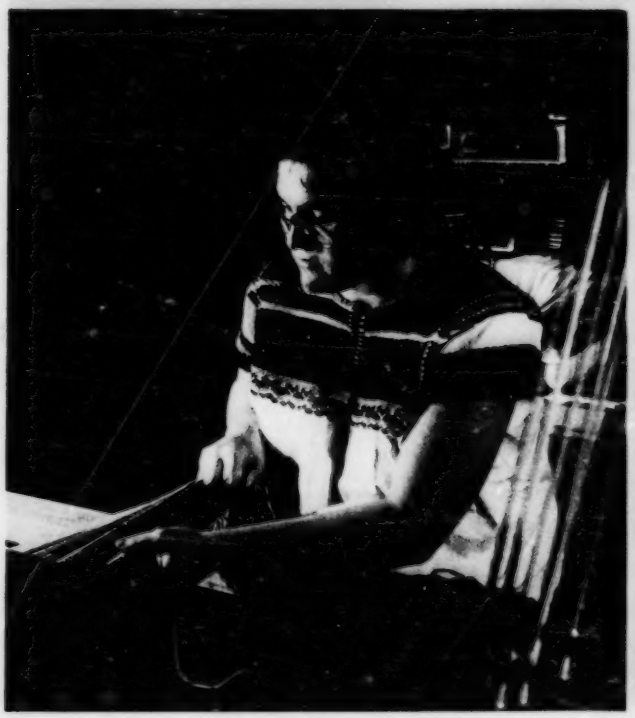
Acadian Festival

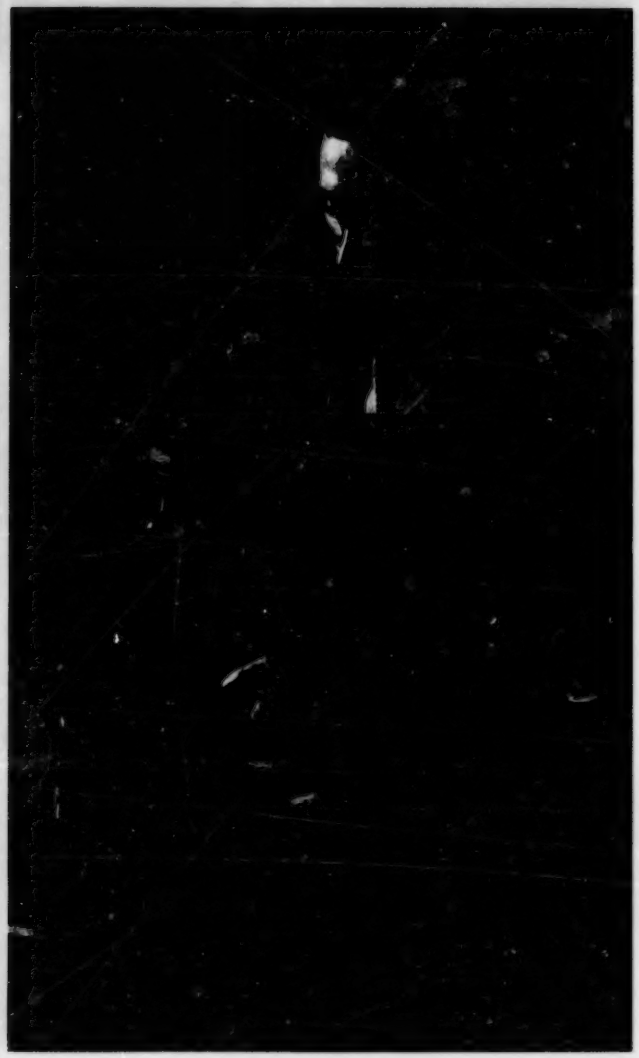
Islanders have inherited a tradition of fine craftsmanship, a tradition supplemented in recent years by an influx of talented craftspeople from other areas and the opening of the School of Visual Arts in Charlottetown.

Perhaps it is the Island's own beauty that inspires so many new designs of such heirloom quality. In this age of mass produced disappointments, it is indeed a pleasure to visit a craftsman at his own studio and choose a piece that will stand the test of time.

A full list of craft outlets is available from any tourist information centre. You'll also find quality Island crafts in gift stores and at special craft fairs. It's a great way to take a little bit of Prince Edward Island back home with you.







The Micmac Indians gave the Island its first name — Abegweit, which means (land) "cradled on the waves."

Jacques Cartier is thought to be the first European to have visited Prince Edward Island. The year was 1534, and he pronounced what he saw as "the fairest land 'tis possible to see."

It was a full century later before Samuel Champlain became the next overseas visitor. (.... tourism hadn't been invented yet.) He charted the Island and it became known as Ile St. Jean. The first French settlers came in the early 1700's, some of whom built a village called Port La Joie, across the harbour from where Charlottetown eventually grew up. The Fort Amherst National Historic Site at Rocky Point is the site of the French Port La Joie, complete with museum displaying relics found in the ruins.

France's control of the Island ended after four decades, and the British changed the name to Prince Edward Island.

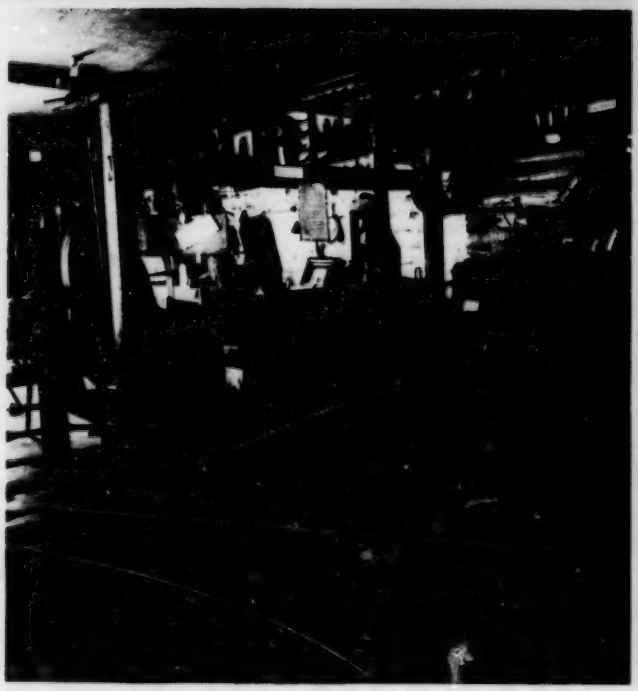
Captain Samuel Holland was sent out to survey the newly acquired real estate. He divided the land into 67 lots, which were distributed by a "lottery" to influential absentee landlords.

This caused considerable trouble for immigrant farmers, but by 1865, the "land question" had largely been settled and talk was turning to railway construction.

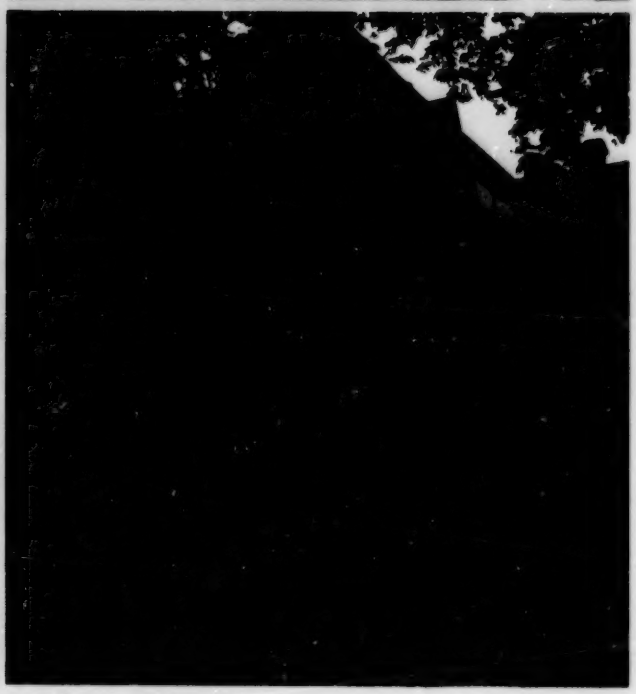
A visit by delegates from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec to discuss a federal union went almost unnoticed in September of 1864. Yet it was that meeting that led to Canada's birth three years later. The high-vaulted meeting room in Province House is on view to the public and has become known as the "Confederation Chamber."

Acadian Pioneer Village, Mont Carmel

Province House, Charlottetown



Miscouche Museum, Miscouche

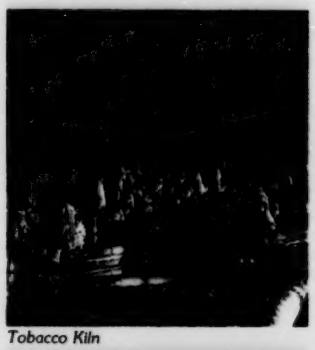


Kirk of St. James, Charlottetown

INDUSTRY

"Smokestack" industries are a no-no in Prince Edward Island. Instead we've gone in for landscaped industrial parks that make electronic and precision equipment, fashion clothing, injection molded cross-country skis, sunglasses and so on.

The growing manufacturing sector helps stabilize the provincial economy, but agriculture is still the big money-maker. A good crop year sends pleasant fiscal vibrations throughout the entire province. Our potatoes are justly famous, often commanding a premium in the big cities. We've developed seed potatoes that much of the world wants and a processed french fry that is sold in hundreds of well known restaurants.



Tobacco Kiln

Tobacco Workers

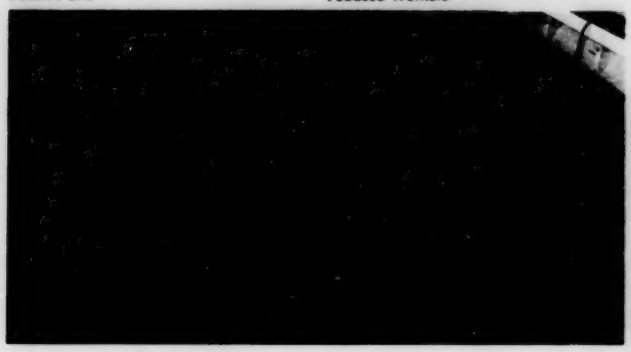
Tobacco is an important crop, along with corn and vegetables. Visitors are always a little surprised to see one of three grain elevators looming alongside the road. There's a healthy livestock population, and the fox farming industry of the 1930's is staging a modest comeback.

The Island's beaches and scenic attractions have remained popular with tourists, to the point where tourism now ranks as the second most important industry after agriculture.

Fishing also plays a major role and is expanding because of the new 200-mile offshore limit and successful experiments in aquaculture, especially with oysters.

Prince Edward Island has taken a responsible position in the research and development of alternate energy sources such as solar and wind power.

Beach Point



Rice Point

When your conference delegates need a break from the grind of meetings, Prince Edward Island's unspoiled landscape and miles of ocean beaches offer a relaxing change of pace.

This is why the Island is fast becoming a popular conference centre; contemporary accommodation and meeting facilities along with a balanced blend of efficiency and friendliness.

The Prince Edward Island Convention Bureau will assist in arranging everything from an informal seminar to a convention or trade show in the city or resort setting. Size is no problem either. We can manage meeting space for very small to very large groups.

Swimming, sailing, deep-sea fishing, golfing and even flying are never far away when break-time arrives. Bus tours of the Island, side trips and special arrangements for spouse programs can all be arranged for you. In addition, the Bureau can arrange simultaneous translation services, special-occasion banquets and assorted resort activities.

Call the Prince Edward Island Convention Bureau at 1-(902) 892-5900 or write P.O. Box 2077, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, C1A 7N7, for all the help you need in planning a meeting 'away from it all.'

When dining on the Island why not do as Islanders do — crack open some of the world's finest lobsters, served in the traditional way with cool salads, hot rolls and home-made pies and pastries. The lobsters are fresh from the sea and are delicious hot or cold. Visit one of the Island's famous lobster suppers sponsored by a number of local communities. Home-made food and quick, friendly service go hand-in-hand, and the atmosphere is informal in these church halls and community centres.

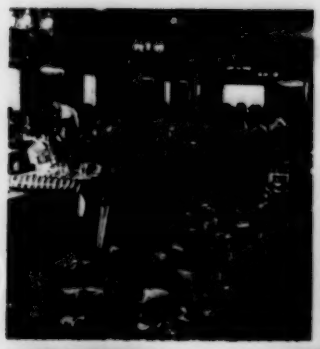
Lobster and other seafood delicacies from Island waters are served in restaurants around the province. Baked mackerel, fried smelts, and crisp deep-fried scallops or clams served in piping hot chowder are a treat for any palate.

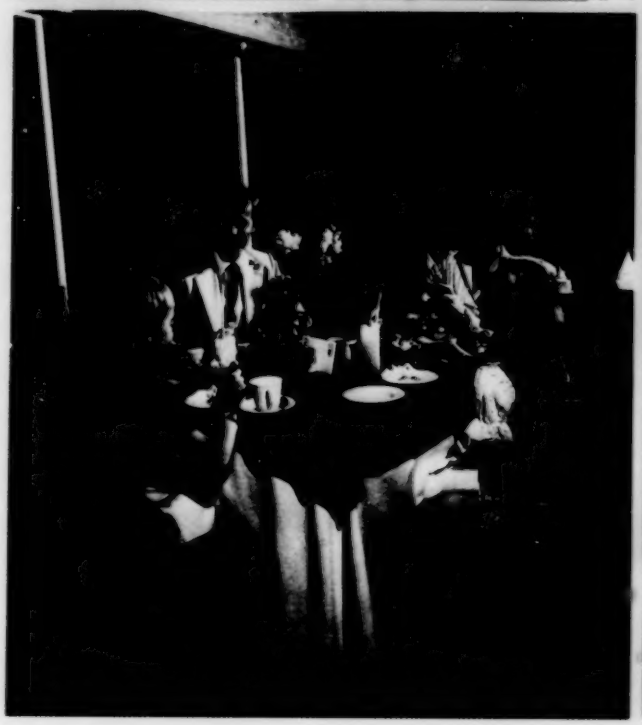
World-famous Malpeque oysters live up to their reputation right from the shell or cooked in oyster stew, a thin and delicate chowder.

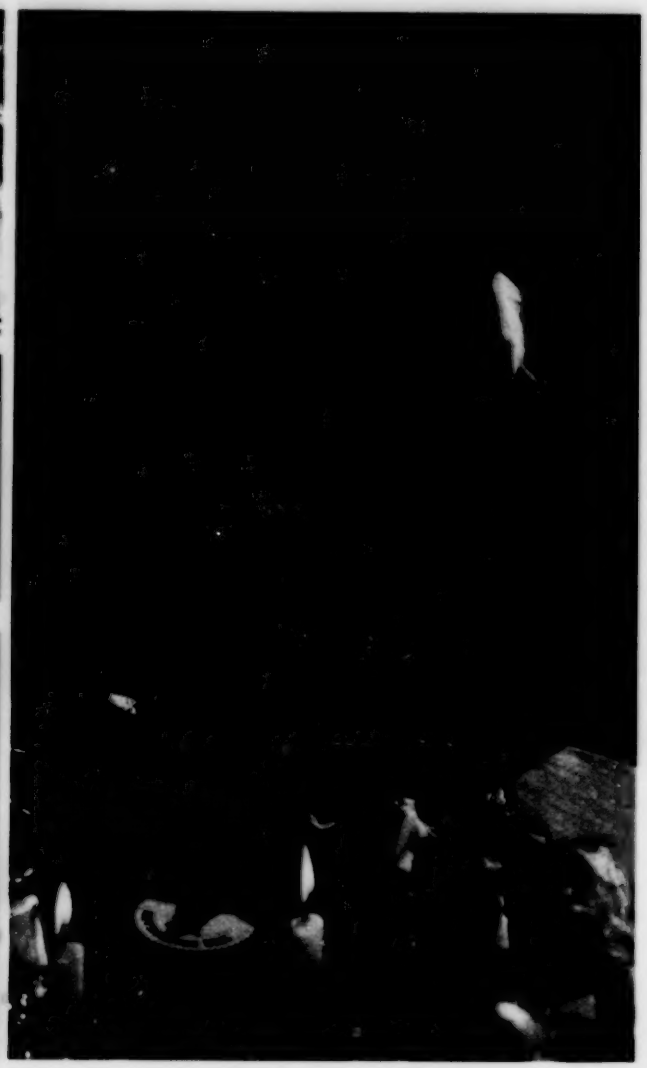
Seafood is just one reason Island eating is memorable. Fresh garden vegetables grown here in the rich, red soil taste as good as any vegetables you've ever had! The Island's potatoes are as famous as its oysters. If you happen to be here at harvest-time, boil the new potatoes right in their skins for a delicious treat. Corn on the cob and plump red strawberries can be bought at roadside stands and easily prepared as part of an outdoor meal.

Traditional Prince Edward Island recipes are enjoying a revival, much to the delight of diners looking for something different from the usual fare. In the western part of the province the Acadian influence adds a distinctive flavor to local dishes. Try rapûre, a delectable loaf of fried potato and pork. Ask for Acadian meat pie, or chicken fricot, a hearty chicken stew.

We can assure you variety in dining experiences, from your own cook site to formal dining rooms. In-between you'll find a number of unpretentious restaurants, big and small, offering good food and often breath-taking views. Bon appetit!







PREMIER'S MESSAGE

Prince Edward Island offers to visitors both excellent accommodations and a wide variety of attractions. We believe, however, that the single greatest attraction in this province is the natural beauty of our landscape.

Prince Edward Island is a province of bright and contrasting colours. In every part of the province carefully tended farms run down to the shore where the green of the land gives way to the red sandy shore and blue waters. It is a province of white farm houses and white boats; a province where wild flowers grow in profusion along the roadways and in the meadows; and where the woodland shades range from the vivid spruce to the pale green of poplar and birch.

We would be very happy to welcome you to the Island. Come and share its colours, and the hospitality of its people.

Honourable J. Angus MacLean

Premier
Province of Prince Edward Island

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

I hope that this brief introduction to Prince Edward Island has been interesting and informative; and that you will have an opportunity to include our Island province in your vacation schedule in the near future.

Prince Edward Island has individual appeal to visitors 'from away.' They come to enjoy the 500 miles of sandy beaches, golf, quality handcrafts, farm vacations, and much more.

We invite you to experience first-hand the warmth and hospitality of our people, and to discover the special captivation that Prince Edward Island holds for you.

Honourable
Barry Clark

Minister
Department of Tourism,
Industry and Energy

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Issued by
Department of Tourism,
Industry and Energy
P.O. Box 2000
Charlottetown
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Printed In Canada